CONVEYING EQUIPMENT/SPECIAL REPORT

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THIS 72-INCH WIDE CONVEYOR TAKES COAL from the stockpile area to a 200-ton capacity surge bin for loadout into unit train cars. Reclaim tunnel, located at the base of the conveyor line, uses four 1,000 ton-per-hour vibrating feeders to take coal from the stockpile.

UNIT TRAIN, MOVING AT FOUR MILES AN HOUR beneath surge bin, is loaded with coal at the Levan unit train coal loading facility owned by Coastal States Energy Company. The unit train consists of 85 cars, each with a capacity of 100 tons. The facility can load up to 4,000 tons of coal an hour.

Unit Train Coal Loading Facility Handles 4,000 Tons Hourly

LEVAN, UTAH

A new unit train coal loading facility, the western-most point for unit train loading in the United States, has begun regular operation by Coastal States Energy Company.

The Houston-based energy firm, the parent company of Southern Utah Fuel Company (SUFCo) in Salina, Utah, built the new facility alongside the Union Pacific Railroad tracks six miles west of Levan. The unit can load about 4,000 tons of coal an hour.

Engineering and construction contractor for the project was Pullman Torkelson Co., Salt Lake City.

Vernal J. Mortensen, vice president of Utah Operations for Coastal, said the new facility loads coal mined from the firm's Southern Utah Fuel Co. mine, located 30 miles east of Salina. The mine produces about 1.7 million tons of coal a year, of which more than 460,000 tons will be shipped to Arizona in 1980 aboard unit trains utilizing the combined facilities of the Union Pacific and the Santa Fe Railroads.

The unit trains consist of 85 cars capable of holding about 100 tons of coal each. They haul only one commodity and take it all to a single destination. Coal

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Congress Moves On Synfuel Financing of $20-Billion

By GENE SMITH

WASHINGTON

Congress finally made a move to create the Synthetic Fuels Corporation but the Energy Department dealt the coal cause a severe blow by approving the use of natural gas instead of coal to replace oil at 128 power plants in 11 states.

A House-Senate conference committee agreed to creation of the new corporation that can spend up to $20-billion over the next four years for development of synthetic fuels from coal, shale and tar sands. This action gives major support to President Carter's energy program by setting the 7-member corporation with a 12-year life.

The new corporation will have authority to make direct Government investments in plants, with a goal of producing the equivalent in snythetic fuels of 500,000 barrels of oil a day by 1987 and two-million barrels by 1992. It will seek the most promising means of producing synfuels and provide initial financing to encourage private investment.

The Energy Department action waived provisions of the 1978 Federal Fuel Use Act that required utilities to treat both oil and natural gas as scarce fuels, replacing them with coal primarily. Under this ruling, gas will

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Coal Caucus to White House: 'Put-Up-or-Shut-Up' Deadline

By STUART MAGOWAN

WASHINGTON

In a move virtually unprecedented in recent memory here, the Senate Coal Caucus gave President Carter a what amounted to a "put up or shut up" ultimatum during the last week of February, telling the President that if he did not submit a suitable "oil backout" bill to the Congress by March 1, the senators might draft a bill of their own, which might not match Carter Administration priorities.

The White House did not make the March 1 "deadline," but not for lack of frenzied last-minute negotiations between representatives of the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Office of Management and Budget, and the White House itself.

An administration-backed bill to displace oil imports by conversion of utility boilers to coal was sent to Capitol Hill last Thursday, March 6.

A "Presidential Decision Memorandum" was submitted to Carter outlining the variety of options he was to choose from in several key areas to be incorporated in the final legislation recommended to the Congress.

Administration insiders are betting that the eventual product will be a hybrid compromise between the DOE

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IMPROVED BELTING AND ON-SITE SERVICE are major considerations for expanded use of modern conveyor systems in deep coal mines. (Page 10)

JIM WALTER RESOURCES DEPENDS ON NETWORKS of conveyors in its 6-mine complex in north central Alabama. (Page 11)

WASHINGTON WATER POWER LOOKS FOR A 1987-88 START-UP for the first of four 500-m.w. coal-fired units in its $2-billion Creston power plant. (Page 2)

CINews' COLUMNIST JOHN CORCORAN RECALLS John L. Lewis and hopes for a decade of coal mine peace similar to that of the 1950's. (Page 15)

DOMESTIC

PRODUCTION	Latest	Previous	Yr.Ago
Feb. 23 '80			Feb.24'79
Bituminous	50,675	14,785	13,735
Anthracite	85,000	67,000	85,000
RRcarloadings, Bitum	106,925	100,825	80,278
RRcarloadings, Anthra	298	203	305

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy, Coal Statistics Div.

By States (Bituminous and Lignite)

Eastern Feb. 16			
Alabama	547	514	406
Georgia	14	10	7
Illinois	1,316	1,236	1,086
Indiana	488	457	480
Kentucky			
Eastern	1,759	1,656	1,588
Western	813	768	603
Total Ky.	2,572	2,424	2,191
Maryland	59	54	49
Ohio	760	667	808
Pennsylvania	1,789	1,683	1,518
Tennessee	192	179	219
Virginia	754	749	650
West Virginia	2,019	1,820	2,155
Total Eastern	10,510	9,793	9,569
Western			
Alaska	15	14	15
Arizona	236	221	248
Arkansas	14	10	5
Colorado	429	403	406
Iowa	14	10	13
Kansas	15	10	14
Missouri	103	97	79
Montana	728	777	333
New Mexico	296	277	208
North Dakota	325	306	293
Oklahoma	104	97	92
Texas	340	320	450
Utah	266	263	297
Washington	89	83	103
Total Western	1,301	1,224	1,155
Total United States	4,275	4,113	3,711

Source: Dept. of Energy, Energy Information Admin.: Weekly Coal Report

Work force Jan.'80	Latest	Previous	Yr.Ago
All employees	258.1	259.4	254.8
Coal mining		256.4	251.8
Bit. & lignite			
Production employees			
Coal mining	214.7	216.2	214.4
Bit. & lignite		213.5	211.6
Workers in (000), preliminary			
Weekly Ave—Hrs.			
Coal mining	40.2	41.7	41.3
Bituminous & lignite		41.7	41.3

Earnings, hourly avg in $			
Coal mining	10.40	10.31	9.83
Bituminous & lignite		10.33	9.86
Earnings, weekly avg			
Coal mining	418.08	429.93	405.98
Bituminous & lignite		430.76	407.22

Source: Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics - Employment and Earnings

TRANSPORTATION: RAILROAD

	Week ended Jan. 26		
Eastern district	Jan.26'80	Jan.5'79	Jan.27'79
Bessemer and Lake Erie	1,177	739	1,228
Baltimore and Ohio	4,034	3,198	2,983
Chesapeake and Ohio	10,950	9,526	8,108
Consolidated Rail Corp.	8,910	6,994	6,015
Illinois Terminal	—	—	—
Norfolk and Western	16,216	14,441	13,030
Pittsburgh & Lake Erie	390	265	369
Western Maryland	1,741	1,252	887
Other, eastern district	27	2	1
Total, eastern district	43,445	36,417	32,621
Southern district			
Clinchfield Railroad	1,606	1,426	1,247
Illinois Central Gulf	3,382	3,029	3,057
Louisville & Nashville	12,102	10,144	11,404
Southern Railway	6,873	5,046	5,081
Other, southern district	3	—	20
Total, southern dist.	23,966	19,645	20,809
Western district			
Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe	1,372	802	1,000
Burlington Northern	20,457	19,641	11,167
Chicago & North Western	641	442	538
Denver & Rio Grande Wstrn	3,079	2,934	2,975
Kansas City Southern	105	82	91
Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pac.	1,278	1,060	1,283
Missouri-Kansas-Texas	89	29	199
Missouri Pacific	3,852	2,872	1,571
Chicago, Rock Is. & Pacific	158	112	90
St. Louis-San Francisco	892	678	647
Soo Line	148	118	164
Union Pacific	4,303	2,973	2,557
Other, western district	11	2	107
Total Western district	36,385	31,745	22,389
Total, all districts	87,807	73,789	69,751

Railroad revenue freight loaded,
Source: Assoc. of Amer. Railroads, Car Service Division - Statement CS-54A.

Inland Rivers	Mar.1	Feb.23	Feb.24'79
Monongahela River, Lock 3	389,842	380,304	119,876
Allegheny River, Lock 2	43,200	48,900	17,400
Ohio River, Mntgmry Lock	240,600	216,800	137,500

In short tons through locks, week ended Feb. 23
Source: U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

CONSUMPTION	Sept.79	Aug.79	Sept.78
Electric power Utilities	41,908	48,453	42,560
Bunker, foreign & lake vessel	1	1	1
Manufacturing & mining industries:			
Beehive coke plants	(a)	(a)	39
Oven coke plants	6,198	6,148	6,352
Steel & rolling mills	267	216	284
Other mfg. and mining industries including cement	4,439	4,481	4,164
Total, industrial	52,813	59,299	53,400
Retail deliveries	460	329	525
Total, all consumption	53,273	59,628	53,925
In short tons (000),	(a) included in oven coke plants.		
User Stocks			
Electric power utilities	136,658	131,904	112,935
Manufacturing & mining industries:			
Oven coke plants	8,875	8,583	6,202
Steel & rolling mills	452	413	283
Other mfg. and mining industries including cement	7,145	6,741	5,922
Total, industrial	153,130	147,641	125,342
Retail dealer stocks	432	412	362
Total, all stocks of coal	153,562	148,053	125,704
In short tons (000),			
Days' Supplies			
Electric power utilities	98	84	80
Manufacturing & mining industries:			
Oven coke plants	43	43	29
Steel and rolling mills	51	59	30
Other mfg. and mining industries including cement	48	47	43
Total, industrial	87	77	70
Retail dealer stocks	28	39	21
Total, all coal users	86	77	70
In days,			

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy, Energy Information Admin.: Weekly Coal Report

USERS' OUTPUT

Major direct users:	Latest	Previous	Yr.Ago
Elec.Util.(Mil.Kw)Feb.23	44,076	45,021	45,270
Steel (short tons-000) Feb. 23	2,432	2,395	2,604
Cement, Portland, U.S. shipments Nov.'79	7,037,000	9,188,000	6,980,000
Other significant output:			
Aluminum, orders receipts (Mil. lbs.)			
5-week moving aver. (week Dec. 28)	282	275	285
Annual rate Dec. 28	14,664	14,300	14,820
Motor vehicle production, Total (week Feb. 23)	208,889	174,802	252,695
Machine tools Nov. 79			
Net new orders	435,750	565,050	441,050
Shipments	348,550	380,050	274,000

Cement—month ended Aug. 79; Machine Tools—month ended Sept. 79.
Sources: Edison Electric Institute, American Iron & Steel Institute. U.S. Dept of Interior, Bureau of Mines, Div. Nonmetallic Minerals, Aluminum Association, Motor Vehicle Manufacturers Assoc., National Machine Tool Builders Assoc.

Price Indexes Dec'79	Latest	Previous	Yr.Ago
Anthracite	457.8	455.4	442.7
Chestnut, Pa. mine	423.7	418.6	408.2
Buckwheat No. 1, Pa. mine	381.1	372.6	364.6
Bituminous coal	480.4	479.6	466.2
Domestic sizes	457.9	455.6	442.8
Retail dealers	577.6	581.4	573.1
Industrial sizes, spot	273.3	275.0	271.1
Steam electric util.	394.5	394.4	401.6
Manufacturing	119.4	118.7	122.9
Metallurgical, high volatile	249.4	250.2	253.7
Metallurgical, low & medium volatile	706.2	706.2	715.9
Industrial sizes, contract	703.6	706.6	709.9
Steam Electric Utility	129.5	128.6	123.3
Manufacturing	150.6	148.9	138.2
Metallurgical, high volatile	116.8	116.8	115.1
Coke (Foundry by-product)	104.4	104.4	105.2
Birmingham, Ala.	431.2	431.2	418.8
Milwaukee, Wis.	439.6	439.6	419.0
Detroit, Mich.	420.4	420.4	405.9
Indianapolis, Ind.	427.4	427.4	415.8
St. Louis, Missouri	437.7	437.7	424.2
Philadelphia, Penna.	286.8	286.8	277.8

Prices for month of Aug. '79 for Anthracite & Bituminous Coal.
Index Bases: For Retail Dealers—Dec. '75=100; For Industrial Sizes—Spot; All Metallurgical & Coke (foundry by-product)—1967=100; Steam Elec. Util.—Dec. '73=100.
Source: U.S. Dept. of Labor: Producer Prices and Price Indexes.

Abbreviations

DOE — Dept. of Energy
EIA — Energy Information Admin.
AAR — Assn. of American Railroads
EEI — Edison Electric Institute
MVMA — Motor Vehicle Mfrs. Assn.
COE — Corps of Engineers
Bit. — Bituminous
Lig. — Lignite
Ant. — Anthracite

U.S. ELECTRIC UTILITY PLANTS
Fuel Prices in Cents per Million British Thermal Units
Steam-Electric Plants, Monthly Purchases - Average

	Fuel	Latest	Previous	Yr.Ago.	Change 6/78 to 6/79
U.S. TOTAL JUNE 1979	Coal	121.8	123.4	112.0	+ 8.8%
	Oil	300.0	277.7	212.7	+41.0%
	Gas	179.3	177.2	149.3	+20.1%
NEW ENGLAND	Coal	155.2	152.7	155.3	— 0.1%
	Oil	293.6	272.7	192.5	+52.5%
	Gas	263.1	250.1	185.8	+41.6%
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	Coal	122.8	120.4	125.0	— 1.8%
	Oil	306.1	279.9	207.1	+47.8%
	Gas	204.7	192.5	171.5	+19.4%
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	Coal	130.6	131.4	117.6	+11.1%
	Oil	342.3	320.0	264.0	+29.7%
	Gas	232.5	247.1	200.1	+16.2%
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	Coal	106.9	100.6	91.6	+16.7%
	Oil	317.7	384.5	206.3	+54.0%
	Gas	146.1	147.1	118.8	+23.0%
SOUTH ATLANTIC	Coal	138.0	139.0	129.2	+ 6.8%
	Oil	312.8	270.7	199.1	+57.1%
	Gas	126.5	123.5	105.2	+20.2%
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	Coal	131.8	132.7	118.3	+11.4%
	Oil	238.1	231.8	195.0	+22.1%
	Gas	185.9	195.0	150.9	+23.2%
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	Coal	99.8	89.9	68.6	+45.5%
	Oil	249.8	242.8	196.7	+27.0%
	Gas	168.5	169.2	140.1	+20.3%
MOUNTAIN	Coal	69.3	97.8	50.3	+37.8%
	Oil	309.6	284.3	213.6	+44.9%
	Gas	199.3	193.0	153.7	+29.0
PACIFIC	Coal	84.6	83.0	78.8	+ 7.4%
	Oil	283.4	277.8	261.0	+ 8.6%
	Gas	238.7	225.8	213.4	+11.9%

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy, Energy Information Administration, Asst. Administrator for Energy Data — Cost and Quality of Fuels for Electric Utility Plants

(IMPORTS)

COAL IMPORTS	Nov. 1979	Oct. 1979	Nov. 1978	Nov. 1979	Oct. 1979	Nov. 1978	Nov. 1979	Oct. 1979	Nov. 1978
Bituminous Coal									
Australia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada	1,236	6,260	3,326	28,840	127,817	57,365	23.33	20.42	17.25
Poland	31,305	—	—	973,595	—	—	—	—	—
South Africa	58,034	26,300	57,921	1,168,800	526,000	1,145,094	20.14	20.00	19.77
Other nations	—	55	—	—	1,953	—	—	—	—
Total, Bitu Coal	90,625	32,615	61,247	2,171,235	655,770	1,202,459	23.96	20.11	19.63
Coke suitable for fuel									
Asia, Africa, Oceania									
Japan	83,018	96,664	44,808	6,562,376	7,961,725	3,402,738	79.05	82.36	75.94
Other nations	—	5,511	—	—	663,850	—	—	120.46	—
Total, Asia etc	83,018	102,175	44,808	6,562,376	8,625,575	3,402,738	79.05	84.42	75.94
Europe									
Belgium	—	18,165	19,931	—	1,685,018	3,132,182	—	92.76	157.15
France	—	15,859	—	—	1,505,896	—	—	94.96	—
Germany F.R. (West)	76,403	123,293	388,147	7,393,737	11,184,210	31,819,836	96.77	90.71	81.98
Italy	—	—	36,771	—	—	3,135,502	—	—	85.27
Norway	—	20	—	—	1,478	—	—	73.90	—
United Kingdom	—	26,163	17,116	—	2,511,176	1,098,175	—	95.98	64.16
Other nations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, Europe	76,403	183,500	461,965	7,393,737	16,887,778	39,185,695	96.77	92.03	84.82
Western Hemisphere									
Argentina	—	—	48,115	—	—	1,360,658	—	—	28.28
Canada	10,324	14,278	11,477	786,956	934,607	794,406	76.23	65.46	69.22
Other nations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, West Hemis	10,324	14,278	59,592	786,956	934,607	2,155,064	76.23	65.46	36.16
Total, all nations	169,745	299,953	566,365	14,743,069	26,447,960	44,743,497	86.85	88.17	79.00
Compositions for fuel									
Canada	1,240	1,033	2,107	37,595	31,174	58,730	30.32	30.18	27.87
Japan	—	—	—	—	—	824	—	—	—
Mexico	—	—	13	—	—	1,000	—	—	76.92
Other nations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, Comp.	1,240	1,033	2,120	37,595	31,174	60,554	30.32	30.18	28.56
Coal, other, and lignite									
Australia	57,668	—	58,033	2,025,029	—	1,648,391	35.12	—	28.40
Canada	3,696	2,221	7,047	101,482	64,806	184,975	27.46	29.18	23.41
France	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Germany, F.R. (West)	—	—	20	—	—	1,762	—	—	88.10
Poland	57,709	—	582,900	1,875,533	—	3,854,100	32.50	—	6.61
Other nations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, Coal, other	119,073	2,221	648,000	4,002,044	64,806	5,689,228	33.61	29.18	8.75

NOTE

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